Attorney's Docket No.: 09991-014001 Applicants: ROBERT PALIFKA et al.

Serial No.: 09/749,893

Filed : December 29, 2000

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REMARKS

Prior to this response, the application included claims 1-109. Applicants have cancelled claims 1-28, 34, 37, 40, 46, 47, 49, 53, 59, 62, 77, 100, 101, 103, and 106-109 and are considering filing a continuation application to pursue some or all of these claims. Applicants acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 45, 48, 50-52, 54-58, 60, 61, 63-65, 85-99, 102, 104, and 105 are allowed for at least the reasons stated in the Office Action. Applicants further acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 40-42 and 79-81 would be allowable for at least the reasons stated in the Office Action if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 29 to include all the features of claim 40 and intervening claim 37. Furthermore, Applicants have amended claim 41 so as to not depend from now canceled claim 40. Applicants have also amended claim 44 to include all the features of claim 79 and intervening claim 77. Furthermore, Applicants have amended claim 80 so as to not depend from now canceled claim 79.

Applicants submit that claims 29-33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41-45, 48, 50-52, 54-58, 60, 61, 63-76, 78-99, 102, 104, and 105 are in condition for allowance, with claims 29, 44, 45, 52, 102, and 104 being in independent form.

Enclosed is a check for \$120 for the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050 referencing Attorney Docket Number 09991-014001.

Respectfully submitted,

ég. No. 57,377

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